

# HERALD'S KENNEL PAGE FOR LOVERS OF DOGS

## "He's My Tyke—He's All Right" Is Motto of Real Dog Lovers

Your Pet's Disposition and Intelligence and Friendship  
Should Count in Your Estimate—Some Lively State-  
ments About the Types in Today's Kennel Page.

By ANDREW P. O'CONNOR.

If your choice should happen to fall on a mongrel canine, to which you are attracted by its affection for you, and if some acquaintance who happened to be "doggy-wise" should make light of your pet, should advise you to get rid of it because it did not happen to be a thoroughbred, and if you finally did take the advice and dispose of it, you are not a dog fancier; you have no business with a dog of any kind, because you are not worthy of the affection of a dog. The fact that the "Tyke" happened to have a bar sinister worked into his family escutcheon was no fault of his, nor did the accident of birth make him less loyal than his more patrician cousins.

In awarding the ribbons at the dog shows, the qualities of brains, loyalty and comradeship which have endeared the dog to mankind is not taken into consideration by the judges. The standards which have been adopted have to do only with coat, expression and conformation. In many breeds the less room there is in a dog's skull for the storage of brains, the more perfect the dog is considered by our modern judges, whose mental gymnastic feats are the wonder of the world.

Owing to the fact that certain breeds of dogs have been reduced from intelligent, courageous, useful animals to hideous monstrosities which are incapable of affection, which would drown in a puddle of water, and which haven't brains enough to follow their masters through a deserted street, the canine world would be better off without them.

**Decadence of Bull Dog.**  
Go to the Library of Congress and ask to see a copy of the "Sportman's Cabinet," of 1893, examine the picture of the "Bull Dog" painted by Reinagle, compare it with a picture of any bull dog of today, and you will readily see how this wonderful breed has deteriorated. In Reinagle's time, the bull dog was built over and not between his legs as we see him today. His skull was high and round, which denoted room for brain development.

The bull dogs of France and Spain probably originated from the English bull dog; they were, and in some places are still, used for bull-baiting. The French and Spanish dogs resemble the Reinagle painting, muscular, alert-looking, straight-legged, the very perfection of power and courage, and ranging in weight from 100 to 125 pounds. The English bull dogs are so extremely delicate that if a breeder saves five out of ten puppies he may consider himself fortunate, and if he brings one out of five to maturity, he is considered a genius.

We present herewith pictures of Silver Wizard, a modern bull dog, a monstrosity whose brains, if composed of dynamite, would not have sufficient force to raise the hair on his ugly head. While his progenitors were able to subdue the fiercest and strongest bulls, this mutt could not hold a candle to a calf. The breed has always been the writer's favorite among the nonsporting members of the canine family, and he regrets to see them deteriorating year after year.

**Sam's Model Looks Useful.**  
Sam's Model, is a modern bull terrier, which originated from a cross between the bull dog and black and tan terrier. Sam's Model closely resembles in conformation the useful bull dog of 100 years ago. The bull terrier is one of the most active, courageous and intelligent, as well as most "flectionate and loyal of all breeds."

The American bull terrier, which is, of course, of English origin, has been improved since its introduction into this country, and even the English breeders admit that we surpass them in this breed. Sabine Rarewon is one of the American fox terriers referred to in The Herald last week as being one which carried all before it in the English show rings. The strain originated from the old working fox terrier of England, a specimen of the breed which we also present, taken in England with the writer, and which we present for the purpose of comparison between the old and new breed, the latter of which is absolutely useless for the purpose for which the old strain was developed.

The old strain is still carefully bred by English sportsmen, and the pedigree of the little bitch, which was ten years old at the time this picture was made, runs back in unbroken lines for more than 100 years.

**Benignity is a modern St. Bernard.** The original of which was one of the most useful breeds in all the world; one of the few breeds whose mission was to save instead of destroy, as is the case with most breeds of dogs. The stories of these heroic dogs are most inspiring, and prove that "true courage dwells with gentleness."

**The Story of Barry.**

One of the most pathetic chapters in canine history is the death of Barry, a dog of this breed, which, after having rescued forty hapless wayfarers in the Alpine snow storms, was mistaken

for a wolf and shot in his fifteenth year. His skin was mounted and may be seen in the Museum of Natural History at Basel, Switzerland.

The St. Bernards were originated and perfected by the monks more than 600 years ago, through a cross between the mastiff of Denmark and the Pyrenean sheep dog, with a later cross of the Newfoundland blood. For centuries these dogs, like the holy men who perfected them, have been devoted to the welfare of humanity, but after falling into the hands of the English fanciers, they soon afterward suffered from the blighting influence of the English Kennel Club's "Standard."

In striving for size, the breed has lost its chief characteristics, and to quote an English authority on the breed: "Injured in constitution and its many cases converted into cripples behind—scarcely able to raise a trot, let alone do any tracking in the snow—usefulness, however, is not a consideration with breeders, who have reared the dog to meet the exigencies of the show ring—there is still much left to be desired, and there is room for considerable improvement, as only a few of the more modern dogs of the breed approach the standards drawn up by the clubs that are interested in its welfare." This is only one of the many shameful confessions regarding the abuse of great breeds recorded in English canine history. "Welfare," forsooth, is this the way to treat a breed of dogs? To destroy them in order that they may conform to the blighting English "Standard?"

**\$6,500 for a St. Bernard.**  
One of these modernized St. Bernards was bought by an American millionaire several years ago, for which he paid \$6,500. The dog never amounted to anything here, which is not surprising, in view of the fact that but few of the high-priced English monstrosities ever amount to anything, for which true dog fanciers should be thankful.

There are thousands of alleged American dog fanciers who profess to believe that the only good dogs in existence are the product of English kennels. The only apology which can be made for them is that they derive their misinformation through American dog papers, many of which draw their inspiration from the advertising columns of The Herald. The American dog breeder tries to combine activity, intelligence and conformation with health and strength, but as his dogs must be judged according to the "standards" formulated by the modern basillisk, the English Kennel Club, he invariably finishes second to the brainless monstrosities, bearing the empty title of "English champion."

As has been repeatedly stated in these columns, the real sportsmen of Great Britain are not the English dog fanciers, who maintain the great sports clubs of their country at the annual cost of hundreds of millions of dollars, yet do not recognize the English Kennel Club, nor would any one of the hundreds of sportsmen whom I had the pleasure of meeting there, waste five minutes looking at the poor helpless canine wrecks which are exhibited by the thousand by the commercial dog breeders.

**Trouble with Kennel Club.**  
In America, the dog breeders have a more trouble to contend with in connection with the American Kennel Club, which is a revised standard for all breeds; the perpetuation of only healthy, intelligent breeds; a strict canine law; the publication by the government of useful literature concerning the care of dogs, and their adoption by this government for use in the army in times of war, as well as their use by municipal governments in police departments throughout the country.

The Philadelphia Kennel Club, of Philadelphia, is the only one of the following officers: President, Ralph C. Stewart; first vice president, Robert E. Strawbridge; secretary and treasurer, J. Chandler Barnard; dog show committee, Joseph A. Buchanan; Ralph C. Stewart, J. Chandler Barnard, Theodore Offerman, Charles R. Wood, and J. Bailey Wilson.

**Rule Seems Unfair.**  
It is evident that the present rule has become the instrument of practices which are not only unfair, but certainly border very close to it. For this reason surely the time has come when the English Kennel Club rule which insists that all dogs competing for prizes must have been bred previously in one or more of the breed classes is adopted. Should the rules committee of the American Kennel Club consider the time has come for such a change, then rule No. 1 would have to be amended to read:

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That the American exhibitor is commencing to realize the injustice of certain rulings of the American Kennel Club is evidenced by the following story which appeared in a recent issue of the New York Herald, which thoroughly, concisely and accurately states the facts:

One lives and learns, and it was not until the recent New York show one became convinced that the American Kennel Club rule No. 14, governing dog shows, needed overhauling. The rule with its various sections relates to the different phases under which a dog can or cannot compete according to the disposition of the owner. Everything is apparently kept in line, but the owner lives up to the spirit which prompted the framing of the rule in its sections. Professionalism and its resultant jockeying, and other little tricks, however, have no qualms when it comes to the question of winning so long as the letter of the law is not infringed.

For the last year or so owners of cracks representing a popular breed, the best specimens of which are in this country, have flagrantly dodged the issue as far as competition in the regular classes has been concerned, but under cover of "enter for specials only" have bobbed up when the smoke of real competition has cleared away or remained in accordance with the way the wind was blowing.

This "entered for specials only" covers a multitude of little trickeries which the American Kennel Club did not foresee.

**An Unfair Advantage.**  
The unfair advantage to which this "entered for specials only" has extended may be illustrated by the manipulation of the American Kennel Club rule No. 14, which states that a dog entered for a special only may not compete in any regular class. Two dogs were entered in the limit class, two other inmates of the kennel were entered in the regular class, and the dog competing in the regular class competed for a cup for the best of his breed, while his kennel mate who competed with him in the brace class was shut out on the fair day to compete for the cup given for the best in the show. By all this ruse of the changes apart from the confusing effect it might have on the spectators, the result referred to was not only getting two bites at one cherry but several bites at several cherries.

Still another phase of this abuse of the rule is the fact that a dog which has successfully faced the music in may be three or four of the regular classes has the edge taken off him and is asked to meet on equal terms with a dog thoroughly on edge because he has not been subjected to a similar strain. All of which bears in its unfairness the old tradition which governed the lawn tennis championship when the holder was asked only to meet the winner of the elimination rounds.

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